

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously amended) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on a building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;

b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected said bottom plate;

c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;

d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear-resisting assembly including,

1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,

2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,

3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,

4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of shear-resisting element, and

5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element; and wherein

fasteners having a threaded shank portion are inserted through said top strut of said shear-resisting assembly and into said top plate to connect said shear resisting assembly to said top plate.

2. (cancelled)

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34. (cancelled)

35. (previously added) The wall of claim 1, further comprising:

- a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;
- b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

36. (previously added) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on a building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

- a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;
- b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected to said bottom plate;
- c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;
- d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear-resisting assembly including,

1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,

2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,

3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,

4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of said shear-resisting element, and

5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element, and wherein

said shear-resisting assembly rests directly on said underlying structural component and said first and second chords of said shear-resisting assembly rest directly on said underlying structural component.

37. (previously added) The wall of claim 36, wherein:

said first and second chords are formed from wood.

38. (previously added) The wall of claim 36, further comprising:

a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

39. (previously added) The wall of claim 37, further comprising:

- a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;
- b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

40. (previously added) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

- a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;
- b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected to said bottom plate;
- c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;
- d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear-resisting assembly including,
 - 1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,
 - 2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,

3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,

4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of said shear-resisting element, and

5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element; and wherein

said shear-resisting assembly rests directly on said underlying structural component and said first and second chords of said shear-resisting assembly rest on standoff plates resting directly on said underlying structural component.

41. (previously added) The wall of claim 40, wherein:

said first and second chords are formed from wood.

42. (previously added) The wall of claim 40, further comprising:

a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

43. (previously added) The wall of claim 41, further comprising:

a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

44. (currently amended) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on a building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

- a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;
- b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected to said bottom plate;
- c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;
- d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear resisting assembly including,
 - 1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,
 - 2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,
 - 3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,
 - 4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of said shear-resisting element, and
 - 5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element;

e. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

f. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively, by fasteners having threaded shank portions, wherein said threaded fasteners are inserted only a selected distance into said first and second chords without passing all the way through said first and second chords.

45. (cancelled) The wall of claim 44, wherein:

said threaded fasteners are inserted only a selected distance into said first and second chords without passing all the way through said first and second chords.

46. (previously added) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on a building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;

b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected to said bottom plate;

c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;

d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear-resisting assembly including,

1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,

2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,

3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,

4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of said shear-resisting element, and

5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element; and wherein

said planar shear resisting element is made from wood and edge fasteners having a shank portion connect said top strut, said bottom strut, said first chords and second chord to said shear-resisting element, and boundary edging members disposed on said shear-resisting at said first and second side edges are pierced by said shank portions of said edge fasteners and thereby strengthen the connection made by said edge fasteners.

47. (previously added) The wall of claim 46, wherein:

said boundary edging members are u-shaped channels, having a pair of legs joined by a central member that embrace said shear-resisting element, each of said edge fasteners passing through each of said legs of said u-shaped channels.

48. (previously added) The wall of claim 46, further comprising:

a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

49. (previously added) The wall of claim 47, further comprising:

a. first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;

b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.

50. (cancelled) A wall designed to resist lateral forces imposed on a building incorporating said wall, said wall comprising:

a. an underlying structural component that is part of said building, and a bottom plate resting on and connected to said underlying structural component of said building;

b. a plurality of vertically-disposed studs resting on and connected to said bottom plate;

c. a top plate resting on and connected to said vertically-disposed studs;

d. a shear-resisting assembly connected to said top plate and also connected to said underlying structural component and disposed between said top plate and said underlying structural component, said shear-resisting assembly including,

1. a planar shear-resisting element, said planar shear-resisting element having a proximal face and a distal face, a top edge, a bottom edge and first and second side edges, said shear-resisting assembly also including,
2. a top strut connected to said top edge of said shear-resisting element, and disposed substantially parallel to said top plate of said wall,
3. a bottom strut connected to said bottom edge of said shear-resisting element,
4. a first chord connected to said first side edge of said shear-resisting element, and
5. a second chord connected to said second side edge of said shear-resisting element; and wherein

said shear-resisting element comprises a plurality of adjoining structural panels disposed in a single plane.

51. (cancelled) The wall of claim 50, further comprising:

- a first and second anchor bolts that are anchored to said underlying structural component;
- b. first and second holdowns that receive and are connected to said first and second anchor bolts, respectively, and are also connected to said first and second chords, respectively.